

Application Serial No. 09/917,120
Response dated December 13, 2004
Response to Action dated December 2, 2004

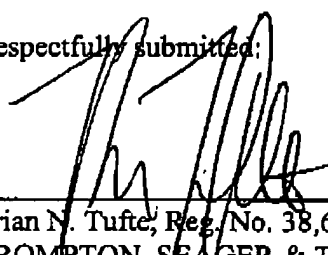
Remarks/Arguments

This Response is being filed in response to the Official Action of the Examiner mailed December 2, 2004, setting a one-month shortened statutory period for response ending January 2, 2005. In the Official Action of the Examiner mailed December 2, 2004, the Examiner states that the Amendment filed on February 18, 2003 did not comply with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. 1.121(c) because claims 48 and 49 have the wrong status identifiers. The Examiner notes that Amendments to the claims filed on or after July 30, 2003 must comply with 37 C.F.R. 1.121(c).

The undersigned would like to point out that the previous Amendment was filed on February 18, 2003, which is before the July 30, 2003 deadline, which is the date on which Amendments must comply with 37 C.F.R. 1.121(c). Thus, the previously filed Amendment is believed to be in order. Despite the foregoing, this Response is being provided.

Respectfully submitted:

Dated: December 13, 2004



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